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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Raul-Adrian Cernea
Title: Background Operation for Memory Cells
Application No.: 10/677,349 Filing Date: October 1, 2003
Examiner: Hur, Jung H. Group Art Unit: 2824
Docket No.: SNDK.212US1 Conf. No.: 9812

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Signature Mary S. Buggie

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated May 6, 2004, setting a shortened statutory period for response to expire on August 6, 2004. A petition for an extension of time with accompanying fee is being filed herewith to extend the response period to September 7, 2004.

Claim Amendments are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.